RICE BUILDING WORKSHOP

ARCH 327 / Fall 2014 / AH 309
T/Th 10:50am – 12:35pm (4 hr. credit)
Danny Samuels and Nonya Grenader

Project Row Houses Archive
at the Eldorado Ballroom:
An archive, exhibition, and research space.

For the past twenty-one years, Project Row Houses (PRH) has been a catalyst for transforming community through the celebration of art and African-American history and culture. Their Third Ward campus includes artist exhibition spaces and residencies, houses for young mothers, affordable residential and commercial buildings, and innovative programs for all ages. Since 1996, Rice Building Workshop (RBW) has assisted PRH in reaching these goals through the design and realization of projects that include renovation, new construction, and neighborhood planning. This fall, RBW will design an archive for PRH in the historic Eldorado Ballroom (at the corner of Elgin and Dowling, facing Emancipation Park, now in renovation). This storefront archive will include storage, exhibit space, and a study/research area for visitors. The design will accommodate existing artifacts of various formats with planning for future information to be added over time. Sharing a space with the Project Row Houses Board meeting room, the archive will frame the existing conference table (previously fabricated by RBW) with organized storage, display, and an area for projection. The archive design will incorporate flexibility including the ability to move archive elements to another space in the future if needed.

RBW will work with the PRH archivist and other consultants (climate control, lighting, etc.) that PRH selects. In the fall semester, RBW students will document the site, review archive precedents, understand the history and context of PRH, interact with community clients, and prepare the design and drawings to facilitate future fabrication.

Danny Samuels and Nonya Grenader Arch 327, T/Th, 10:50am, AH 309

RICE BUILDING WORKSHOP: Project Row Houses Archive at the Eldorado Ballroom

SCHEDULE

August

T 26 RBW Introduction and discussion of Archive project/program.

Th 28 Introduction to Project Row Houses, including RBW collaborations. Assign precedent research and general readings. Articles will be posted on Owlspace and additional references will be available in class.
Sheryl Tucker, "Reinnovating the Aftrican-American Shotgun House" in *PLACES*, Vol 10, N. 1, Summer 1995.
Vicki Goldberg, "In Houston, Rebuilding by Creating" in *The New York Times*, July 16, 1995.
Nathalie Janson, "Artists as developers" in *Domus*, N. 962, October 2012.

September

T 02 Site visit: PRH general tour (meet at 2521 Holman) and Eldorado specific site (document site and inventory of material from PRH archivist Gay Ann Gustafson).

Th 04 Class visit: The African American Library at Gregory Lincoln School, 1300 Victor Street

T 09 Student presentation of precedents. Assign archive schematic charette requirements.

Th 11 Visit MFA archive (800 Rosine St) with Lorraine Stuart. Students continue working on schematic.

T 16 Schematic working in class.

Th 18 Visit Menil archive with Geri Armanda. Students continue working on schematic.

T 23 Schematic working in class.

Th 25 **Schematic review.**

October

T 07 Begin Design Development phase. Lighting and climate control consultants as needed.

Th 09 DD working in class. Discussion: material and detailing options.

T 14 Fall break, no class (continue DD)

Th 16 DD individual progress meetings with DS, NG.

T 21 DD working in class.

Th 23 **DD review** (at RSA with PRH representatives or additional review at PRH).

T 28 Begin Construction Document phase: establish drawing team and fabrication/mock-up team.

Th 30 CD working in class.

November

T 04 CD working in class.

Th 06 CD working in class.

T 11 CD working in class.

Th 13 CD individual progress meetings with DS, NG.

T 18 Preliminary pin-up (in class).

Th 20 **Final Pin-up at RSA** (with PRH representatives).

GRADING CRITERIA

A Excellent work, beyond what is required
B Above average work
C Acceptable work
D Unsatisfactory work

The semester grade will be determined as follows:

30% Individual Schematic proposal
20% Contribution to Design Development
20% Contribution to Construction Documents
30% Contribution to class discussions including presentation of precedents, engagement in all field trips and viewings, regular attendance and active involvement in reviews with clients and consultants.